

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

YOUNG, Don (Republican)
Representative, At Large, Alaska
Elected 6Mar73 to 93rd Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



BACKGROUND

Born: Meridian, California - 9 June 1933
Home: Fort Yukon, Alaska
Marital status: Married (Lula) - 2 daughters
Religion: Episcopalian
Education: Yuba (CA) Junior College, A.A., 1952; Chico (CA) State College, B.A., 1958
Military: Army, 1955-57
Profession: Teacher; riverboat captain
Political: Fort Yukon City Council, 1960-64; mayor, Fort Yukon, 1964-68; AK House, 1966-70; AK Senate, 1970-73. Defeated Emil Notti (D) in a 6Mar73 special election to fill the seat made vacant by the presumed death of Rep Begich (D-Alaska, 1971-73). Reelected in 2000 with 70% of the votes and in 2002 with 75%.

Rep Young is a conservative and party loyalist with pro-development views on public land issues. In the 104th Congress, became Chairman of the Resources Cmte. Is an opponent of many environmental groups. Has led fight to enhance/conservate vital fish/wildlife resources existing on military lands. Planned to amend certain nuclear waste legislation to provide Nevada with parcels of land to offset lands withdrawn for nuclear storage. Is a B-2 supporter. In the 105th Congress has supported measures to strengthen veterans' preference laws and increase veterans' employment opportunities; supports the attempt to provide constitutional protections against flag desecration; supports efforts to create criminal penalties for theft and vandalism at national cemeteries.

In the 106th Congress, expressed appreciation to MSgt Randolph J. Saunders, USAF, who is retiring; noted he was the first-ever-senior enlisted historian at Air Force Space Command in Colorado Springs, CO. Drew attention to the conclusion of an agreement between the Dept of Interior and the Rongelap Atoll Local Government; explained that H.R. 2970 had prescribed certain terms for the resettlement of the people of Rongelap Atoll, one of the sites of the US nuclear weapons testing program in the Marshall Islands.

In the 107th Congress, strongly supported HR 1699, the US Coast Guard Authorization bill. Said he has great respect for the all military branches, but that the Coast Guard is "always on the front lines", e.g. drug interdiction, immigration, etc. Supported withdrawal from the ABM Treaty and the National Missile Defense system; voted to fund missile defense test bed at Ft Greely. Supported easing environmental restrictions at DOD training sites. Secured language in the DOD appropriations bill to transfer land from the Air Force directly to Gwitchyaa Zhee Corp. Said if he didn't the land would have reverted to the Fish and Wildlife Service. Missed 21 percent of floor votes in 2001, more than nearly every other member of Congress. Blamed it on the distance from Alaska to Washington, DC

AF Bases: Eielson AFB; Elmendorf AFB; Anchorage Airport (ANG); Minor Bases

COMMITTEES

RESOURCES

SELECT HOME SECURITY: Subc Infrastructure and Border Security
TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, chairman